

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 03941 041326Z

44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 AID-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01

IO-10 EUR-12 /081 W

----- 010314

O P 041255Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9611

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 3941

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, CB

SUBJECT: MARCH 4, THE 63RD DAY OF THE OFFENSIVE

REF: PHNOM PENH 3848

1. SUMMARY. THE KC SUNK TWO KHMER NAVY LANDING BOATS AND A PATROL BOAT IN THE NEAK LUONG AREA. FRIENDLY FORCES MADE PROGRESS BY OPENING THE ROAD BETWEEN BANAM AND NEAK LUONG WHILE THE KC STTACKED THE FERRY CROSSING POINT OPPOSITE NEAK LUONG TWICE. THE ISOLATED 3RD DIVISION BATTALION SOUTHWEST OF PHNOM PENH HAS BEEN RELIEVED. A SECOND BRIDGE NORTHEAST OF THE CAPITAL FELL TO THE KC. KC ROCKETS CONTINUED TO FALL INTO DOWNTOWN PHNOM PENH, REPORTEDLY KILLING 6 AND WOUNDING 17. END SUMMARY.

2. FANK FORCES MADE PROGRESS BY REOPENING ROUTE 15 BETWEEN NEAK LUONG AND BANAM (REFTEL). THE KC ATTACKED THE FERRY CROSSING POINT OPPOSITE NEAK LUONG TWICE MARCH 3, KILLING 4 AND WOUNDING 28. TWO KHMER NAVY LANDING VESSELS ATTEMPTING TO RESUPPLY THE FRIENDLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 03941 041326Z

POSITION SOUTH OF NEAK LUONG WERE HIT BY ENEMY FIRE

AND SUNK LATE MARCH 3, WITH 30 TONS OF AMMUNITION LOST AND TEN MILITARY REPORTED MISSING. A PATROL BOAT WAS ALSO SUNK IN THE NEAK LUONG AREA, BUT ALL PERSONNEL WERE RECOVERED.

3. IN A WELCOME PIECE OF GOOD NEWS, THE OPERATION SOUTH-WEST OF PHNOM PENH LINKED UP MARCH 4 WITH THE 3RD DIVISION'S REMAINING ISOLATED BATTALION, THUS REDUCING PRESSURE ON THIS FRONT. HOWEVER, NORTHEAST OF PHNOM PENH ON THE MEKONG'S WEST BANK, A SECOND BRIDGE FELL. THUS FAR ONLY 34 SURVIVORS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM THE BATTALION-SIZED FORCE AT THE POSITION. THERE WERE 97 SURVIVORS FROM THE BRIDGE WHICH FELL THE NIGHT BEFORE.

4. KC 107MM ROCKETS HIT DOWNTOWN PHNOM PENH MARCH 3-4, LANDING NEAR THE CITY'S TWO LARGEST HOTELS, THE AIR FRANCE AND AIR VIETNAM OFFICES AND IN A CITY MARKET. THE TOTALS FOR BOTH THE CITY AND POCHENTONG AIRFIELD DURING THE PERIOD WERE 26 ROCKETS WHICH KILLED SIX AND WOUNDED 17, MOSTLY IN THE CITY. THE ROUNDS AT POCHENTONG, THOUGH NUMEROUS, HIT FOR THE MOST PART OUTSIDE THE AIRFIELD PERIMETER AND FEW CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED. THE KHMER NAVAL BASE OPPOSITE PHNOM PENH WAS HIT MARCH 3 WITH 82MM AND 75MM RECOILLESS RIFLE FIRE, REPORTEDLY KILLING FIVE AND WOUNDING 18.
DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PHNOM03941
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750075-0343
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750384/aaaacxxe.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PHNOM PENH 3848
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <09 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARCH 4, THE 63RD DAY OF THE OFFENSIVE
TAGS: MOPS, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006